Table of Contents

1. Allegiances
2. Prologue
3. Chapter 1

Allegiances

"It is in time that one becomes many and many become one, the blooming blossom with the key to the universe that will not yet be discovered"

SpringClan

Leader//Skyestar// pretty she-cat with blue, silver, white and a bit of brown on her paws

Deputy//Sedgerunner//brown and white tom; yellow eyes

Medicine cat//Bayleaf//tortoiseshell she-cat; amber eyes (apprentice: Starlingpaw)

Warriors
Shadetail//grey and white tom; dark brown eyes

Larkfoot//tortoiseshell tom; hazel eyes

Cloverfur//white she-cat with brown paws; amber eyes

Stripeflight//silver, white and blue tabby she-cat with blue eyes

Wilddrop//cream colored she-cat with spots of brown flecked over her pelt; brown eyes (apprentice: Sparrowpaw)

Nettlewing//golden she-cat with green eyes

Embertail//gold and orange tabby with white socks and hazel eyes (apprentice: Brookpaw)

Silverstripe//silver tabby she-cat; blue eyes

Stonetooth//gray tabby tom with green eyes (apprentice: Jumpingpaw)

Milliefur//pretty light brown she-cat (apprentice: Redpaw)

Apprentices
Lightrunner//ginger tabby she-cat with brown paws and brown eyes

Sparrowpaw//brown tom with white patches and green eyes

Jumpingpaw//yellow she-cat with black paws and a black tail tip; grey eyes

Starlingpaw//light grey and silver she-cat with green eyes

Redpaw//brown and red tom with forest green eyes

Brookpaw//pretty silver and white she-cat with one light green one light blue eye

Queens:

Hannatail//ginger tabby she-cat with bright green eyes (mother of Treekit, Shykit and Pearlkit)

Flowerstrike// brown tabby she-cat with light blue eyes (kits: Brightkit, fostering Kit 1 and Kit 2)

SummerClan

Leader//Poppystar//spotted white and black she-cat

Deputy//Swallowfall// yellow and brown tom; green eyes

Medicine cat//Flywhisker//brown tom

Warriors
Tumblewhisker//ginger tom with one white paw and a brown underbelly; gray eyes (apprentice: Stormpaw)

Lightningtail//black tom with white paws and underbelly; amber eyes

Waterleap//blue she-cat with ice blue eyes and one white paw

Birdsky//brown tabby she-cat with light green eyes

Tigerfire// golden tom with hazel and green eyes

Hollyspark//black she-cat with flecks of cream and yellow on her pelt; brilliant amber eyes (apprentice: Littlepaw)

Shadowstream//black tom with one white paw and dark gray stripes barely visible on his black pelt; dark brown eyes (apprentice: Willowpaw)

Pinewhisp//mottled brown she-cat; pale gray eyes (apprentice: Snailpaw)

Apprentices
Stormpaw//silver tom with white paws; amber eyes

Littlepaw//small brown she-cat with green eyes and a small nose

Willowpaw//light brown tortoiseshell she-cat; light blue eyes

Snailpaw//large grey tom with ice white socks and muzzle; grey eyes

Queens
Rainsong//fluffy cream she-cat with brown ear tufts and paws; hazel eyes (kits: Runningkit and Pricklekit)

Sandystalk//pale orange she-cat with forest green eyes (kits: Brackenkit and Ryekit)

Autumnclan

Leader//Leafstar//pure brown tom with blue eyes

Deputy//Timbersky//brown tabby tom (apprentice: Greenpaw)

Medicine cat//Fawnwillow//golden she-cat; amber eyes

Warriors
Lavenderslip//blue she-cat with grey ears and grey eyes

Autumnpath//mottled brown she-cat with gray paws; gray eyes

Cherryfrost//ginger she-cat with brown paws; hazel eyes (apprentice: Berrypaw)

Brightpool//white tom with blue and grey eyes (apprentice: Charlottepaw)

Pondtail//cream tom with yellow eyes

Deerfly// brown tabby she-cat with amber eyes

Apprentices
Greenpaw//cream tom; blue eyes

Berrypaw//cream and blue tom with amber eyes

Charlottepaw//pretty golden she-cat with beautiful blue eyes

Elders
Spiritsong//pure white she-cat with blue eyes

Minkwing//oldest elder; brown tom with dull gray eyes

Winterclan

Leader//Moonstar//black and white she-cat with one white one brown eye

Deputy//Spottedtail// tortoiseshell she-cat with white paws

Medicine cat//Shadowflight//grey she-cat with one white paw; grey eyes

Warriors
Iceflight//white tom with hazel eyes

Dandelionspirit//long-furred cream cat with amber eyes

Winterfall//pale grey and white tom

Deepshade//black tom with light blue eyes

Snowfang//pure white she-cat with light blue eyes (apprentice:

Rainpaw)

Frozenclaw//white tom with a black tail tip, paw, and ears; blind in one eye

Shadefur/ silver she-cat with white underbelly and brown tail tip (apprentice: Silverpaw)

Apprentices
Rainpaw//light grey tom with blue and light brown eyes

Silverpaw// white, blue and silver she-cat with one brown one white eye

Queens
Smallreef//pale grey tabby with light blue eyes (kits: Cloverkit, Sealkit, and Mothkit)

Crowshadow//black tabby with grey eyes (kits: Snowkit and Oceankit)

Loners
Blossom//brown tom with swirls of light brown on his pelt; gray eyes

Eli//brown tom with swirls of white on his pelt; amber eyes

Sunset//orange-yellow she-cat with green eyes

Orange//orange she-cat with blue eyes

Jackdaw//dark blue and white tom

Appletide//ginger pelted she-cat

Prologue

The she-cat cat turned towards her friends who were sitting under a tree about 2 tail-lengths away. Its leaves were drooping, as if someone had made the tree cry. Everyone called it the Weeping Tree. She sat down, her tail automatically curling around her paws.
"Shadowheat, Springwing, why are you here?" The ginger she-cat asked the two pale cats across from her. They nodded back in greeting.
"We have not forgotten, we have forgiven. Quietpaw told us you were here. We don't know, we are lost in space-or at least Gardenstar told me that. I don't know what he told Springwing though..." The pale gray she-cat looked over at Springwing, who was cleaning her paws. She looked up at them.
"I'm sorry, we haven't forgotten, I haven't forgiven, I simply made my choice. Appletide, you are going to have two kits. You need to name them for who they are; I can not split the deal, I made the choice, and you are willing to take it. I know you are, believe me and listen." Springwing stared at Appletide for a few seconds, her gaze unreadable, but strong.
Appletide nodded, getting up to her paws. "You're just a mousebrain," She stated, glaring at Springwing. Her littermate had always taken the lead. "I don't even have a mate; Dusky is just a special friend. I love him with all my heart, but I would never have his kits. And why should I believe you, anyways?" She spat, her eyes narrowing as Shadowheat and Springwing remained calm.
"I already told you that you are willing to take it. As for Dusky...well, he's not the father of your kits. Just make sure your kits are safe. We can't risk having them be in danger. They are very special, you know." Appletide's eyes hardened. Nobody else knew about her long-lost relationship with 'him'.
"You're going crazy. You might as well just join your relatives in the Dark Forest now." Appletide retorted, her gaze burning with fury. "I will not have these kits, and if you think I will, then you're just plain old wrong. Stop it with all the mousedung and start becoming a better littermate. Maybe then I would like you more!" The she-cat raced off, her paws thrumming against the ground like the sound of

a heartbeat. She knew Springwing was right; she was going to have her kits, and she was going to take care of them. But not in a Clan. Appletide skidded to a stop as she reached the end of SpringClan borders. She had a choice to make. She could either make the choice of stepping over the border and be welcomed into Twolegplace, or she could stay within SpringClan borders and find a home among everything and everyone she despised and loved. It was easy.

Ginger pelt flying, Appletide crossed the border and ran around a corner, dodging Twolegs and strays as she raced past. Stones and rocks bit into her paws as she ran across the pavement. She halted as she saw another pelt, a smaller yet lighter pelt. She cautiously padded through the bush to meet with two cats. One was a cream and white tom and the other was black as night.

"Oh, hello Appletide." The white tom mewed, his eyes trailing along her body.

She hissed and unsheathed her claws, stepping back. "Leave me alone!" She cried, drawing his eyes back up to meet hers. "It's your fault that I'm like this! It's your fault I'm going to have kits that I never wanted!" Her eyes welled up with tears at the thought of taking care of kits by herself.

"You don't have to be alone," the tom said, stepping closer. Appletide moved closer to him, tears sliding down her face. She didn't want to give in, but her kits wouldn't survive unless she had help. "Don't worry," He spoke again. "I won't hurt you." She took a few more hesitant steps toward him and sighed. She just wanted everything to be over with.

"Fine," She said, letting a smile fall onto her face, even though it was forced. "I'll stay with out guys. But if anything happens to these kits-" She glared at him and hissed. "You will pay."

Chapter 1

Redpaw's pov

The brown and red tom jumped and successfully landed on the thrush, biting its neck. He had killed it.

"Well done!" His mentor, Millefur, called out. He picked it up and padded back to the hunting patrol. His best friend Sparrowpaw, was sitting down, nibbling his forepaw. Redpaw shot him a confused glance. "We are
going back to camp now, that's all for today." His mentor flicked her tail and they set off back to camp.

The dry forest had seen not much rain since new-leaf and it was now leaf-fall and they were expecting rain. Redpaw could hear the sound of the water flowing through the camp. SpringClan had a river running through it that wasn't very deep. It was a nice shaded camp with four dens, technically five because the nursery had a secret pathway around the back that not many knew about, only the curious cats knew about it. Sparrowpaw didn't know about it but Redpaw was planning on telling him soon enough because he wanted them to hang out in a secret place.

"Stop dawdling!" Wilddrop called to Redpaw and Sparrowpaw who had fallen behind.

"Sorry!" Sparrowpaw yowled and they both hurried up to them. Redpaw dipped his head to Wilddrop, embarrassed. They headed back to camp and placed their prey on the fresh-kill pile. Skyestar looked at them approvingly.

"Now you can go see if the queens need anything and if not you two will be assigned for a night patrol." Skyestar dipped her blue-silver head and padded off towards her deputy. Sparrowpaw nudged him.

"Let's go. The quicker we do it, the more time we get off jobs!" He sprinted off without hearing Redpaw's response, leaving him no

choice but to follow along. The clan smelt of damp wood and water, the fresh smells filling Redpaw's nose, making him feel relaxed in the tranquil environment. He padded into the nursery just after Sparrowpaw. His friend immediately turned back and padded out of the den.

"They said we don't need to do anything." Sparrowpaw announced. Redpaw smiled. *Good, now we just wait for night patrol,* Redpaw thought mischievously.

"How long is the gathering in?" Redpaw asked his friend who had started to groom his filthy pelt. Green eyes looked at him.

"You talk." Sparrowpaw laughed. Redpaw sat next to him.

"Yes, I do, I'm capable y'know? Silly bird-brain." Redpaw flicked his tail. He felt like clawing his friend for being such a mouse-brain. Yes, he talked. And he hadn't even answered his question.

Sparrowpaw just rolled his eyes and lay down on his side, trying to warm himself. Redpaw stayed quiet. It wasn't what he usually did though.

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"Sparrowpaw! Redpaw! Come on! Hurry!" Sedgerunner - SpringClan's deputy - called to them.

Redpaw had almost fallen asleep but had forced himself to stay awake so he would hear the call. Quickly, he prodded Sparrowpaw and trotted over to his mentor and they set off without another word.

"Where are we going today?" Redpaw questioned as they left the camp.

"Hmm, SummerClan border." Said Millefur, not even looking back.

Brookpaw and Embertail has also come along. Brookpaw stood close to Sparrowpaw and Redpaw at all times, jumping at any sudden movement under the bushes. The stopped at the border, a thin line of bushes and plants. Redpaw couldn't hear anything

except for pawsteps once in a while.

"Good evening." Redpaw jumped. The new that startled him was just a cat from SummerClan called Hollyspark. He relaxed as he saw the others.

"Good evening Hollyspark, Birdsky, Pinewisp, Littlepaw, Snailpaw." Millefur politely mewed and dipped her head to all the cats. "Just passing by and marking the border. See you at the gathering in a few sunrises hopefully."

"You too Millefur, Embertail and Wilddrop." The black she-cat dipped her head as their patrol headed away.

"Let's set the markers and then we're done." Embertail raced ahead with Brookpaw, completing the first border marker. Wilddrop and Sparrowpaw did the second and third and Redpaw did the fourth with his mentor.

"They're done, we'll make sure they're done, hang on a heartbeat." Embertail and Brookpaw disappeared and reappeared in no time, nodding.

"They're done and dusted." Brookpaw raised her tail happily.

"Good job everyone." Wilddrop congratulated the apprentices.

"I'm glad we aren't stuck as kits again." Sparrowpaw mewled like a kit.

"Yeah, that was like three moons ago, we are like what, nine moons? Ten moons now?" Redpaw smiled uncontrollably.

"I was being sarcastic!" Sparrowpaw mewed, a hint of sarcasm lapping at his voice.

"Right...." Rolling his eyes, Redpaw padded back to camp beside his mentor. Millefur started up random conversations but then stopped after Redpaw didn't give an input in it. *Why does she always wait for* me *to say something?*